

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 AGR-20 AID-20 DEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4962

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AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5372

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: ASPECTS OF CONTROL OF TURKISH OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION

REF A) ANKARA 5257, B) ANKARA A-250, SEPT 8, 1971,

C) ANKARA 5237, D) ANKARA 5255

1. THERE FOLLOWS ROUND-UP OF SUCH INFORMATION AS IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE HERE RE VARIOUS ASPECTS CONTROL OF POPPY PRODUCTION. THIS DATA SHOULD BE LOOKED AT AGAINST BACKGROUND OF FONMIN GUNES' JULY 5 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR MACOMBER (ANKARA 5253) IN WHICH GUNES INDICATED NEW PLAN FOR CONTROL WAS BEING DEVELOPED.

2. EARLIER ON JULY 5, AGRICULTURE UNDERSECRETARY IZZET BAYKAL TOLD AID DIRECTOR TONER AND AGATTACHE DAVIS THAT GOT EXPECTED FOLLOW CONTROL APPROACH DEVELOPED IN 1972. HE EMPHASIZED THAT AGRICULTURE MINISTER OZAL HAD CALLED IN HIS SENIOR STAFF TO SAY THAT THIS YEAR IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROLS HAD TO BE AS TIGHT AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID ANY MARGIN OF ERROR.

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3. 1972 CONTROLS WERE BASED ON 1971 OPIUM LICENSING AND CONTROL

LAW, WHICH WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN PARLIAMENT WHEN DECISION TAKEN TO BAN POPPY PLANTING AND WAS APPLIED ONLY FOR FINAL CROP HARVESTED IN 1972. THIS LEGISLATION WAS BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INCB AND REPRESENTED SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OVER PREVIOUS LEGISLATION. (DETAILED ACCOUNT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS NEW LEGISLATION WAS FORWARDED MAY 15, 1973 TO BRAD LANGMAID, ASIA/NE/AID/2.)

4. PROVISIONS OF 1971 OPIUM LICENSING AND CONTROL LAW:

A. EACH FARMER IS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN LICENSE FROM SOIL PRODUCTS OFFICE (TMO) TO GROW POPPIES. LICENSE IS NON-TRANSFERABLE, LIMITED TO ONE GROWING SEASON, AND FOR FIELD LOCATED IN SINGLE AREA. FARMER, IN APPLYING FOR LICENSE, IS REQUIRED TO INDICATE SIZE OF PLOT ON WHICH POPPIES WILL BE GROWN AND TO ESTIMATE AMOUNT OF RAW OPIUM HE WILL PRODUCE. FARMER IS THEN REQUIRED TO DELIVER TO TMO ENTIRE AMOUNT

OF RAW OPIUM; IF AMOUNT EXCEEDS ESTIMATE, HE WILL DELIVER THAT ALSO, AND IF AMOUNT IF LESS THAN ESTIMATE, TMO WILL INVESTIGATE, AND TAKE LEGAL ACTION IF NECESSARY, DELIVERY MUST BE MADE BY END AUGUST AT LATEST.

B. LOCAL VILLAGE AUTHORITIES ARE ENTRUSTED WITH OVERSEEING POPPY CULTIVATION. TMO WILL CHECK AUTHENTICITY OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN LICENSE REQUESTS. CONTROL, PROSECUTION, AND INVESTIGATION OF VIOLATIONS SHALL BE CARRIED OUT BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES.

C. PUNISHMENTS ARE SIX MONTHS TO THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT WITH FINE FOR PERSONS ILLEGALLY GROWING OPIUM POPPIES IN AUTHORIZED REGIONS, AND TWO TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT WITH FINE FOR ILLEGAL GROWTH OUTSIDE OF AUTHORIZED REGIONS. FARMERS ARE FINED FOR NOT DELIVERING ESTIMATED OR TOTAL AMOUNT OF RAW OPIUM TO TMO (PENALTIES FOR SMUGGLING ARE CONTAINED IN TURKISK CRIMINAL CODE).

5. OTHER STATEMENTS ON CONTROL MEASURES:

A. JULY 1 DECREE ON RESUMPTION OF OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION (REF C).

1. PRIORITY IN ISSUING LICENSES SHALL BE GIVEN TO FARMERS WHO DEPEND SOLELY ON OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION FOR THEIR INCOME, AND
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PRIORITY SHALL BE GIVEN FOR LANDS TRADITIONALLY USED FOR POPPY CULTIVATION. TURKISH STATE RADIO HAS ALSO ANNOUNCED LICENSES WILL BE FOR MAXIMUM OF FIVE DECARES PER FARMER (SEE PARA 2, REF D).

2. FARMERS WHO DO NOT COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF OPIUM LICENSING AND CONTROL LAW SHALL HAVE THEIR LICENSES CANCELLED.

B. PRIMIN ECEVIT'S JULY 2 STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT (REF A)

1. IF PRESENT MEASURES TO CONTROL OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION ARE INEFFECTIVE, GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE OTHER LEGAL STEPS, INCLUDING PASSAGE OF NEW LEGISLATION.

2. GOT IS OPEN TO RECOMMENDATIONS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER COUNTRIES ON CONTROL.

3. GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE RESEARCH ON SUBSTITUTE CROPS.

6. GOT PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE

TURK JANDARMA UNDER INTERIOR MINISTRY CHARGED WITH PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE RURAL AREAS AND DESTRUCTION ILLICIT FIELDS AND PROSECUTION ILLICIT GROWERS. JANDARMA POSSESSES THREE FIXED WING AIRCRAFT FOR AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND ALSO UTILIZES HELICOPTERS AS AVAILABLE. SUBSTANTIAL JANDARMA SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY NOTED THIS YEAR WITH ILLICIT GROWTH UNCOVERED, PARTICULARLY IN CORUM AREA. DEA ATTEMPTING OBTAIN JANDARMA STATISTICS AT THIS TIME.

7. POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

FOREIGN MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTOR SOYLEMEZ TOLD US ON JULY 4 THAT AN EXPERT FROM COMMISSION ON NARCOTICS DRUGS (CND), GENEVA, EXPECTED IN TURKEY VERY SHORTLY TO ADVISE GOT ON A CONTROL SYSTEM. FOREIGN MINISTER CONFIRMED THIS TO AMBASSADOR JULY 5 AND ALSO EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS INVOLVE AMERICAN EXPERTS (ANKARA 5353).

8. QUANTITY TO BE PRODUCED

WHILE GOT HAS NOT YET SET ANY OFFICIAL ESTIMATE FOR TOTAL AMOUNT OPIUM TO BE PRODUCED, PRESS AND MANY OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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STRESSED TURK DESIRE TO MAKE UP "WORLD SHORTAGE OF 200 TONS". IF IN FACT THERE IS NO SUCH SHORTAGE, UNCND EXPERT COULD DO USEFUL WORK AT VERY BEGINNING BY MAKING THIS CLEAR. SPAIN

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